THE MINISTER OF HOME AFFAIRS (SHRI BUTA SINGH): (a) In the annual talks held in April 87 between Director General Border Security Force and Director General Bangladesh Rifles to discuss various common problems, both the parties have agreed to cooperate with each other in curbing effectively the illegal entry and smuggling on Indo-Bangladesh border.

(b) The BSF on Indo-Bangladesh border is constantly on the alter. The Government of India have also sanctioned 29 additional Bns. of BSF in a 5-year period for increased vigilance on Indo-Bangladesh border.

Building of Intermediate Range Ballistic Missile System by the Developing Countries

*279. SHRI KAPIL VERMA: Will the Minister of EXTERNAL AFFAIRS be pleased to state:

(a) whether Government are aware of the reported US move in seeking Soviet cooperation in preventing developing countries, particullarly India, from building an intermediate range ballistic missile system and that the Soviet Union's response thereto is not negative;

(b) if so, what is Government's information and reaction thereto;

(c) whether it is a fact that seven western nations have agreed to ban export of missile-related technologies to non-nuclear countries; and

(d) if so, what is Government's reaction thereto?

THE MINISTER OF EXTERNAL AFFAIRS (SHRI NARAYAN DATT TIWARI):: (a) Government has seen newspaper reports that the USA in its statement announcing fresh policy guidelines for export of unclear capable missiles and related technology has stated that it would wel come the adherence of all States to these guidelines. To the best of our knowledge, there has been no reaction from the Soviet Union so far.

(b) to (d) Seven countries—the United States of America, Canada, Italy, Britain, Japan; France and the Federal Republic of Germany announced a common policy in 16th April, 1987 to control the exports of ballistic missiles, capable of delivering conventional or nuclear war heads, and missile related technologies.

Since the announcement involves complex issues affecting our peaceful space programmes, Government's reactions must await a thorough study of all issues by the concerned Ministries and Departments.

Balance of trade position with Italy

*280. SHRI PRAMOD MAHAJAN:

SHRI LAL K. ADVANI:

Will the Minister of COMMERCE be pleased to state:

(a) the balance of trade position with Italy during the last three Plan periods and also during the last three years, year-wise;

(b) the number of trade collaborations agreed to or being processed with Italian firms or concerns and the value thereof; and

(c) how much worth of such collaboration agreements have been completed/remain to be completed?

THE MINISTER OF COMMERCE (SHRI P. SHIV SHANKER): (a) A Statement is laid on the Table of the House. (See below)

(b) No trade collaboration agreements have been approved by Government with Italian firms.

(c) Does not arise.